

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 COME-00 EB-11 INT-08 CG-00

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SCEN-02 DODE-00 RSR-01

/050 W

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P R 101830Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5478

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 8039

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, IN

SUBJ: GOI REQUEST FOR OFFSHORE SEISMIC SPARKER PROFILE AND
SEAFLOOR DATA

REF: (A) NEW DELHI 6856; (B) STATE 116943

1. PLEASE INFORM EMBASSY OF STATUS OF OFFSHORE SEISMIC SPARKER PRO-
FILE

AND SEA FLOOR DATA WHICH AMBASSADOR HAS PROMISED TO PETROLEUM
MINISTER

AND WHICH WAS REQUESTED IN RAF A. BECAUSE OF UNCERTAINTIES
OF POUCH TIME, WE DID NOT GIVE GOI REF B ESTIMATE OF DELIVERY.
OVER THREE WEEKS HAVE ELAPSED, HOWEVER, SINCE RECEIPT OF REF B,
AND JULY 9 GOI INQUIRY UNDERSTANDABLY REFLECTED ANXIETY.

2. ON JULY 9, DR. RAMASWAMY OF PETROLEUM MINISTRY
CONFIRMED THAT THE OFFSHORE DRILL SHIP IS STILL IN HOLDING
POSITION, BUT STATED THAT WEATHER FORECAST NOW SUGGESTS IT MAY
BE POSSIBLE TO MOVE UNIT TO FIRST WELL SITE IN ABOUT ONE WEEK IF
PROFILE DATA ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT THAT TIME.

3. OFFSHORE COMPANY TECHNICIANS REQUIRE THREE DAYS OF
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MILD WEATHER AT SEA TO MOVE DRILL AND STABILIZE OVER WELL

SITE. REPORTEDLY, PREVAILING MONSOON PATTERN OVER ARABIAN
SEA CURRENTLY INDICATES THAT IF FIRST OPPORTUNITY IS MISSED

FURTHER WAIT TIME OF POSSIBLE 2 - 3 WEEKS MAY FOLLOW. WE WILL THUS
HELP GOI AND THE OFFSHORE COMPANY IMMEASURABLY IF INFORMATION
OUTLINED IN REF B CAN BE AIRPOUCHED TO NEW DELHI IMMEDIATELY.
MOYNIHAN

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